

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on January 25, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Pugh

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Michael L. Johnston, Kansas Turnpike Authority
Tom Whitaker, KS Motor Carriers Assn.

Others attending: See attached list.

Overview of Kansas Turnpike Authority

Chairman Donovan welcomed all the guests at the meeting and extended congratulations to Bill Whim for his 49 years and five million miles of accident-free commercial driving. He introduced Mike Johnston, President/CEO Kansas Turnpike Authority. Mr. Johnston also congratulated Mr. Whim for his excellent Turnpike driving record.

Members received information on the development of the turnpike conception and enabling legislation. President Johnston's overview covered the period from construction to the present (Attachment 1). The Electronic Toll Collection K-Tag Program cost about ten million dollars to initiate and has been far more successful than originally anticipated. Members discussed continued operations of toll collectors and the problems involved in installing mechanical ticket issuing devices and/or "bucket" collecting devices. Approximately 50% of the Turnpike users are non-state residents. Many of these customers require services that can only be provided by people. The possibility of constructing additional toll roads within the state at this time would be very difficult. For one thing, the financing framework available in the 50's would not work in today's market. For example, making Highway 54 West a toll road with the sparse population and the need for farmers to have frequent access and egress to that highway would make it a cost prohibitive project.

The subject of turning the Turnpike over to the state was raised. Mr. Johnston advised that the 1953 enabling legislation did not mandate turning the toll road over to the state. The stated condition was that it could be returned to KDOT when it is debt free and in good condition. It also authorized the Secretary to continue to collect tolls. It costs approximately 65 million dollars annually to operate the turnpike and Kansas taxpayers would have to pick up this cost. Presently, at least half of this revenue is paid by non-Kansans.

Approval of minutes

Senator Salmans moved to approve minutes of the January 24, 2001 meeting. Senator Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Announcements

Tom Whitaker, Executive Director, Kansas Motor Carriers Association, announced planned program to honor Bill Whim, National Truck Driver of the year, and other activities association with Kansas Trucking Industry Day at the Capitol and invited everyone to participate in these activities. He also advised that Kansas has had three of the last five year's National Truck Driver of the year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2001.

**SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
GUEST LIST**

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2001

NAME	REPRESENTING
<i>Michael Johnston</i>	<i>KTA</i>
<i>Jana Colahan</i>	<i>KTA</i>
<i>Tom Wurdeman</i>	<i>KTA</i>
1. Jerry Arensdorf	Arensdorf Trucking, Inc., Medicine Lodge
2. Dave Eaton	Cummins Mid-America, Wichita
3. Eric Dark	Dark Oil Company, Inc., Attica
4. Sherwin Fast	Great Plains Trucking, Inc., Salina
5. John Prather	Groendyke Transport, Inc., El Dorado
6. Harry Klaus	HJ Klaus Trucking, Russell
7. Jerry Taylor	Hillcrest Wrecker & Garage, Inc., Lawrence
8. Lynn Taylor	Hillcrest Wrecker & Garage, Inc., Lawrence
9. Jeff Robertson	J.M.J. Projects, Inc., Kansas City
10. Larry Dinkel	Jim Mitten Trucking, Oakley
11. Dina Dinkel	Jim Mitten Trucking, Oakley
12. Doc Criqui	Kansas Van & Storage, Inc./ Criqui Corp.
13. Dean Ford	Lockheed Martin IMS/PrePass, Phoenix
14. Tony Gaston	Rawhide Trucking, Inc., Hutchinson
15. John Lathrop	Roadway Express, Inc., Kansas City
16. Mike Ross	Ross Truck Line of Salina, Inc., Salina
17. Doug Farringer	Safe Fleet, Inc., Olathe
18. Ed Poley	Southwest Kansas Technical School, Liberal
19. Bob Sudbury	Sudbury Transportation, Wichita
20. Enid Sudbury	Sudbury Transportation, Wichita
21. Nancy Forge	Studdard Transfer & Storage, Leavenworth
22. Pat Thomas	United Parcel Service, Englewood, CO
23. Kevin Stark	United Parcel Service, Lenexa
24. Duane F. Sanders	USF Dugan, Inc., Wichita
25. Kelly Kile	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Ottawa
26. Chuck Mosqueda	Wichita Area Technical College – Commercial Driver Education
27. Byron Bramwell, Roadway Express	
28. Rick Harris, Roadway Express	Tom Whitaker, KMCA Staff
29. Dennis Gillen, Wal-Mart Stores	Deann Williams, KMCA Staff
30. Barry Banzet, Wal-Mart Stores	Gary Davenport, KMCA Staff
31. Don Davis, Wal-Mart Stores	Karen Shum, KMCA Staff
32. Bill Whim, 2000 Driver of the Year	Jill Bronaugh, KMCA Staff
33. Charlotte Whim	Christi Stewart, KMCA Staff



KANSAS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY FACT SHEET

Groundbreaking: December 31, 1954

Opened to traffic: October 25, 1956

Construction statistics:

- The Turnpike was built in 22 months in 1955 and 1956.
- Cost was \$147 million, plus \$9 million in Capitalized Interest.
- Original cost translated to \$660,000 per mile.
- Over 20 engineering and construction firms were successful bidders for the projects.

Length: 236.5 miles

Interchanges: The Turnpike has 20 interchanges for entry and exit located at strategic points along the route.

Service Areas: A total of six, located near Lawrence, Topeka, Emporia, Matfield Green, Towanda, and Belle Plaine.

Bridges: 345

Median Barrier:

- Concrete median barrier that runs the entire length of the roadway; all but eliminates head-on collisions. Completed in 1992 at a total cost of \$32 million, or \$143,000 per mile.
- Estimated to save ten lives per year and countless serious injuries.

Traffic:

- Grown from 3.6 million vehicles in 1957 to 29.2 million vehicles in 2000.
- 25.7 million passenger cars used the Turnpike last year.
- 3.9 million commercial vehicles used the Turnpike last year, but commercial vehicles account for approximately 40.16 percent of revenue.

Employees: 516 employees, including 100 part-time.

Revenue:

- Grown from \$3.9 million in 1957 to \$64.8 million in 1999.
- Out-of-state travelers generate approximately 50 percent of the toll revenue and account for approximately 50 percent of the miles traveled because they average longer trips, although they represent slightly less than 30 percent of all vehicles.

Patrol:

The Kansas Turnpike, by contract with the state, employs 47 highway patrol personnel. The Turnpike has more frequent and 24-hour coverage, mile-per-mile, with the exception of the metro areas, then the remainder of the state.

Electronic Toll Collection K-TAG program:

The electronic toll collection program was officially dedicated October 25, 1995. There are currently over 55,000 accounts with over 126,000 transponders in use.

Travel Advisory Radio (TAR) 1610 AM:

The Kansas Turnpike Authority has a network of radio stations that constantly broadcast weather information, roadway conditions, and general information about the Turnpike.

Weather Line:

By calling one of the Weather Line telephone numbers in towns along the Turnpike you may also access weather information.

Kansas City: 913-721-2020	El Dorado: 316-321-0631
Lawrence: 785-843-8250	Wichita: 316-681-1371
Topeka: 785-266-4135	Wellington: 316-326-8541
Emporia: 316-342-8567	

Emergency Service:

Customers can report emergency situations by dialing *KTA on their cellular telephones, or 1-800-827 PIKE (7453) for travelers who do not have cellular telephones.

Web Site:

www.ksturnpike.com

January 24, 2001
Michael L. Johnston
President/CEO

Kansas Turnpike Authority
9401 E. Kellogg
Wichita, KS. 67207-1804
(316)682-4537

Oakland Expressway Interchange to I-70/Kansas Turnpike

1-3



Oakland Expressway

Tecumseh Road

Location of new Topeka Service Area

Croco Road

Rice Road

Kansas Turnpike

10th Street

I-70

21st Street

Current East Topeka Toll Plaza

HNTB